

# ***Retro Advisory Committee***

*Meeting of December 10, 1996*

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## **Minutes**

### Attendance:

<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>P</b>	<i>Dick Mettler, NW Wall &amp; Ceiling Contr Assoc</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>P</b>	<i>DeAnne Edwards, Pederson Fryer Farms</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>P</b>	<i>Rob Sumner, Timber Operator's Council</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>P</b>	<i>John Gentry, Decor Carpet One</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>P</b>	<i>John Sweitzer, Red Lion Inns &amp; Hotels</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>P</b>	<i>Joseph Hawkins, Bekins Northwest</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>A</b>	<i>Gene Vosberg, Restaurant Assoc of WA</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>P</b>	<i>Tom Kwieciak, Bldg Industry Assoc of WA</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

**P** =PRESENT; **A** =ABSENT

Meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM; moved, seconded and carried to approve the minutes of the October 8, 1996, meeting as submitted.

**Evolution of Claims** – *Doug Connell* presented a brief overview of the project status, highlighting the various key points in the proposed claims management model. He explained the guiding principles of the project, and the idea of assigning claims to adjudicators based on industry within a geographic location.

*Ray Makela* presented a flow chart of the Service Delivery Model. Among the areas that initiated the most discussion by members and guests was the first report of accident being received by a "call center." The flow chart illustration depicted an injured worker reporting an industrial accident directly to the department without contacting the employer or medical provider first. Several people raised the issue that if employers are not notified of an accident immediately it can adversely affect their claim management and return-to-work efforts. Concerns were noted and will be passed on to the project team. They will continue to keep the committee updated on progress of this project.

**Drug-Free Workplace** – *Laura Goshorn and Henry Govert* provided an update on the Drug-Free Workplace rules, their implementation and enrollment statistics. There are currently 148 accounts enrolled in the program (including 107 retro employers). The impact of the 15 percent premium discount will be evident on the March retro reports. Henry gave an overview of the rules, which included: legal requirements, employee assistance programs, compliance, certification, and understanding of the program. There will be a meeting of the oversight committee on December 13, 1996. Input is welcome.

*Michele Payne* is the policy manager at L&I handling accounts that participate in the drug-free workplace program. Her phone number is (360) 902-5598.

**External Access** – *Al Newman* spoke briefly about the project status. Currently, there is a total of 60 enrollees participating. Fifteen additional review screens were added recently. The imaging index screen has been delayed to ensure it will display the most up to date information when a customer accesses it. The target date for adding this screen is some time in early spring '97.

A small pilot group will test external access via the Internet, with full implementation expected around July 1997. Anyone interested should contact *Carla Reynolds* at (360) 902-4732.

**Actuaries' Corner** – *Mark Messier* provided an overview of the State Fund financial status. The contingency reserve stands at \$951 million currently. New retro group tables are being printed for 1997.

**Rules for Retro 'Groups'** – *Kathy Willis* asked for feedback on rules that define retro groups, and asked for any comments on how to make them better. The long-term impact on the retro program must be considered when looking at possible changes. The idea of using the sub-risk class to determine group eligibility was discussed. Contact *Kathy Willis* (360) 902-4835 if you have any comments or feedback.

**Retro Advisory Committee (RAC) Members** – *Kathy Willis* thanked RAC member **John Gentry**, who has served on the committee for a number of years. John's appointment is coming to an end. Kathy indicated that she will be

reviewing the list of individuals who are interested in serving on the committee. As of January 1997, there will be three (3) vacancies on the RAC-- two positions represent groups and one position represents individual employers.

**Meeting adjourned** – 3:45 PM.